

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SECTO 04107 181156Z
ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SSO-00
 NSCE-00 IO-13 CCO-00 /047 W
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O 181117Z MAY 77
FM USDEL SECRETARY GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTO 4107

DEPT FOR S/PRS; PLEASE PASS WHITE HOUSE FOR POWELL AND
BRAZEEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), SZ, PARM
SUBJ: SECRETARY'S COMMENTS UPON ARRIVAL IN GENEVA MAY 18

HERE IS THE TEXT OF SECRETARY VANCE'S REMARKS ON ARRIVAL IN
GENEVA.

QUOTE

1. I'M HAPPY TO BE BACK IN GENEVA TO RESUME MY DISCUSSIONS
WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. WE WILL BE MEETING THIS
MORNING TO SIGN THE ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION TREATY. THIS
TREATY HAS BEEN UNDER NEGOTIATION FOR ABOUT THREE YEARS. I
THINK THE WORK WAS STARTED ON IT IN 1974. IN ADDITION, WE WILL
BE RESUMING OUR DISCUSSIONS ON STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS.
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THERE WILL BE ANY PROGRESS. TIME WILL TELL.
WE ARE ALSO GOING TO BE DISCUSSING MATTERS RELATING TO THE
MIDDLE EAST. SINCE I LAST MET WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO
IN MOSCOW BOTH OF US HAVE HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH THE PARTIES TO
THE MIDDLE EAST DISPUTE. WE WILL EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THOSE
MEETINGS AND WE'LL DISCUSS THE FUTURE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF
OUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

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Q. MR. SECRETARY, WILL THE LIKUD PARTY VICTORY COMPLICATE
THE ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO RESUME NEGOTIATIONS?

A. IT IS CLEAR YET THAT THE LIKUD HAS WON BECAUSE IT WAS NOT
CLEAR YET THIS MORNING WHEN I LEFT PARIS.

Q. I THINK IT IS. THEY HAVE CALLED FOR A UNITY LABOR UNION

GOVERNMENT.

A. HAVE THEY? WELL I'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE. I'LL HAVE TO GET A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION BEFORE I TRY AND REFLECT ON THAT.

Q. MR. SECRETARY, ARE YOU BRINGING ANY NEW IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS ON THE SALT NEGOTIATIONS?

A. NO, WE ARE REALLY MERELY RESUMING DISCUSSIONS. ANYBODY ELSE GOT ANY QUESTIONS?

Q. MR. SECRETARY, ON THE MIDDLE EAST, DOES AT LEAST THE AMBIGUITY OF THE OUTCOME OF THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS COMPLICATE AND SLOW DOWN THE PROCESS?

A. DOES WHAT? I DIDN'T HEAR YOU.

Q. DOES THE AMBIGUITY AND DOUBT OF THE ISRAELI ELECTIONS COMPLICATE OR SLOW DOWN THE PROCESS THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN?

A. I THINK WE ARE JUST GOING TO HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHEN THE SITUATION CLARIFIES ITSELF WHAT KIND OF A COALITION IS PUT TOGETHER IN ISRAEL, AND I THINK IT IS PROBABLY NOT WISE TO SPECULATE UNTIL IT GETS A LITTLE CLEARER EXACTLY WHAT THE SITUATION IS.

Q. MR. SECRETARY, YOU DON'T SEEM TO BE TOO HOPEFUL ABOUT SALT.

A. I'VE ALWAYS SAID THAT SALT IS A LONG PROCESS. IT TAKES PATIENCE AND PERSEVERANCE; WE HAVE BOTH OF THESE. LET'S UNCLASSIFIED

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WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS.

Q. IS THERE SOME ATMOSPHERE OF CRISIS? IS THIS A TYPICAL SESSION THAT COULD, THE PRESIDENT SAID ...

A. LET ME ANSWER YOUR QUESTION. THE ANSWER IS NO.

Q. WELL WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT RIGHT AFTER THE KREMLIN MEETING THAT IF THESE TALKS ARE UNSUCCESSFUL, A RATHER OMNIOUS STATEMENT, THAT HE WOULD BE FORCED TO CONSIDER A SPEED UP OF AMERICAN WEAPON DEVELOPMENT. YOU DON'T SEEM TO TAKE THAT SUPER CRITICAL VIEW OF THE SITUATION.

A. WELL I THINK YOU OUGHT TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS, SEE WHETHER WE MAKE ANY PROGRESS OR NOT. ARMS CONTROL IS A LONG PROCESS, AND WE WILL HAVE TO SEE HOW THINGS TURN OUT.

Q. WILL YOU TALK ABOUT SALT AS THE FIRST AGENDA ITEM?

A. YES, WE WILL.

Q. DO YOU KNOW HOW MANY DAYS YOU WILL BE TALKING?

A. NO, I DON'T. WE WILL JUST HAVE TO SEE HOW THE DISCUSSIONS
GO. I THINK WE WILL BE HERE TWO DAYS. BUT PERHAPS IT MAY BE
LONGER THAN THAT.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
END QUOTE.VANCE

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